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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): DSM IP ASSETS B.V. [NL/NL]; Het Overloon 1, NL-6411 TE Heerlen (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): BERRY, Alan [US/US]; 5185 Duguid Road, Fayetteville, NY 13066 (US). LEE, Connie [US/FR]; 1 Rue Chancel, F-68330 Huningue (FR). MAYER, Anne, Françoise [LU/CH]; Rennweg 100, CH-4052 Basel (CH). SHINJOH, Masako [JP/CH]; Rümelinbachweg 25, CH-4054 Basel (CH).

(74) Agents: SCHWANDER, Kuno, Josef et al.; DSM Nutritional Products Ltd., Wurmisweg 576, CH-4303 Kaiseraugst (CH).

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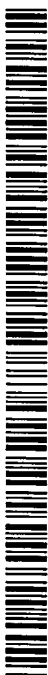
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(54) Title: MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF L-ASCORBIC ACID

(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses an isolated polynucleotide molecule derived from a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having L-sorbose dehydrogenase activity comprising a partial nucleotide sequence of at least 20 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1. The present invention further relates to a process for the production of L-ascorbic acid in high yield, in particular a process using resting cells of a microorganism able to convert given carbon sources into vitamin C. The thus obtained vitamin C may be further processed by purification and/or separation steps.



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